

10, 2002. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the following remarks. Claims 25-37 are now in the case.

REMARKS

The Office Action sets forth a restriction requirement under 35 USC §121. Applicant was requested to elect one of three designated groups as briefly noted below:

I. Claims 1-24, and 38, drawn to nucleic acids, expression vectors, host cells and a method of producing a fusion protein, classified in class 536, subclass 23.4, and 23.5; class 435, subclass 320.1; class 325, subclass 69.7.

II. Claims 25-37, drawn to polypeptides, classified in class 530, subclass 350.

III. Claim 39, drawn to a method of producing an antibody, classified in class 424, subclass 185.1.

IV. Claim 40-42, drawn to antibodies, classified in class 530, subclass 387.9.

V. Claims 43-46, drawn to a method of inhibiting a ligand or reducing cell proliferation, classified in class 514, subclass 2.

VI. Claim 47, drawn to a method of suppressing an immune response in a mammal, classified in class 514, subclass 2.

In response to the Requirement for Restriction Election, Applicant elects Group II Claims 25-37, drawn to isolated polypeptides without traverse. Claims 1-25 and 38-47 are withdrawn from the case; however, Applicant reserves the right to pursue and prosecute these claims in divisional and continuing applications.

Early reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested. If the Patent Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of this patent application, please call the undersigned at (206) 442-6676.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Enclosures:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Amendment Fee Transmittal (in duplicate)

Petition and Fee for 2 Month Extension of Time (in duplicate)

Preliminary Amendment

Postcard